REMARKS

Claim Amendments

Claims 24-55 have been cancelled.

Rejection of Claims 1-23 for Obviousness-type Double Patenting

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-23 for obviousness-type double patenting over Claims 1-21 of U.S. Patent No. 6,203,785. In order to overcome the rejection, Applicants are concurrently filing a Terminal Disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.132(c) over commonly owned U.S. Patent Nos. 6,203,785 and 6,610,283. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection of Claims 24-55 Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

The Examiner has rejected Claims 24-55 under 35 U.S.C § 101 as claiming the same invention of U.S. Patent Nos. 6,203,785 and 6,610,283. In particular, Claims 24-38 and 54-55 were rejected over Claims 22-36, 1 and 37, respectively, of U.S. Patent No. 6,203,785. In addition, Claims 39-53 were rejected over Claims 1-15 of U.S. Patent No. 6,610,283. Claims 24-55 have been cancelled. As such, the rejection is obviated.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments, remarks and the concurrent filing of a Terminal Disclaimer, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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